

Thailand

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



The Thailand GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components Thailand could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Thailand GYTS was a school-based survey of students in Grade 8, Grade 9, and Grade 10 conducted in 2004.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Thailand. At the first stage all schools were selected to participate in the survey. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 100%, the student response rate was 99.9%, and the overall response rate was 84.8%. A total of 19,874 students participated in the Thailand GYTS.

Prevalence

- 31.6% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Male = 42.9%, Female = 18.4%)
- 19.3% currently use any tobacco product (Male = 27.7%, Female = 10.5%)
- 13.8% currently smoke cigarettes (Male = 22.0%, Female = 5.2%)
- 10.1% currently use other tobacco products (Male = 13.4%, Female = 6.8%)
- 9.0% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

- 36.9% think boys and 16.4% think girls who smoke have more friends
- 12.9% think boys and 7.3% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

- 25.2% usually smoke at home
- 44.8% buy cigarettes in a store
- 40.1% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Environmental Tobacco Smoke

- 47.8% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
- 68.5% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
- 87.1% think smoking should be banned from public places
- 68.2% think smoke from others is harmful to them
- 48.3% have one or more parents who smoke
- 10.0% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

- 71.4% want to stop smoking
- 80.2% tried to stop smoking during the past year
- 89.5% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

- 90.5% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
- 43.7% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
- 11.5% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

- 62.2% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
- 31.6% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
- 60.4% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- Approximately one in five students currently use any form of tobacco; 14% of students currently smoke cigarettes and 10% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- ETS exposure is high – almost half the students live in homes where others smoke and over two thirds of the students are exposed to smoke around others outside of the home; almost half of the students have a parent who smokes and almost one out of 10 students have friends who smoke.
- Two thirds of the students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- 7 in 10 of the current smokers want to stop smoking.
- One out of 10 students was offered a free cigarette by a tobacco company representative.
- Two out of 5 students have an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Nine in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days.

* denotes cell size less than 35.